This is the cause why Active times produce
The fewest Writers for the Stages Use.
The World is busie now; and some dare say
We have not seen of late one good New Play.
And such believe Shakespear, *long since in's Grave,*
In Choicest Lybraries a place will have.
When not a modern Play will scape the fire.
I beg their pardons who themselves admire.
Not but this Age hath many men as wise,
But wisely they this begging Art despise.
And two to one, was he alive this Day,
He'd have more wit, then e're to write a Play.

The Morning Ramble, or the Town-Humours. 4°. Lond. 1673.

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE Richard III (STC 22321) LONDON, 1634 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH (JA 372